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United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/77 of 12 December 2001. It covers the implementation of the Programme of Assistance during the biennium 2002-2003 and provides guidelines and recommendations for the execution of the Programme for the biennium 2004-2005.

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I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, by its resolution 56/77 of 12 December 2001, authorized the Secretary-General to carry out in 2002 and 2003 the activities specified in the report on the Programme that he had submitted at the fifty-sixth session (A/56/484). In paragraph 15 of the resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the Programme during 2002 and 2003 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme, to submit recommendations regarding the execution of the Programme in subsequent years.

2. The present report covers the implementation of the Programme of Assistance during 2002-2003 in accordance with the guidelines and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session (A/56/484). This report, inter alia, gives an account of the activities performed by the United Nations itself and of those in which the Organization has participated, as well as a description of contributions made by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). However, unless otherwise indicated, specific information included in the present report refers to activities during 2003. Information for the year 2002 was included in the interim report of the Secretary-General dated 9 October 2002.[1]

II. Implementation of the Programme during the biennium 2002-2003

A. Activities of the United Nations

1. Geneva International Law Seminar

3. The thirty-ninth session of the International Law Seminar was held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva from 7 July to 25 July 2003 during the fifty-fifth session of the International Law Commission. Twenty-four candidates (10 males and 14 females) were selected and participated in the 2003 Seminar. Participants were from Angola, Azerbaijan, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, India, Israel, Kenya, Latvia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Qatar, Romania, Senegal and Spain.

4. Contributions for the 2003 United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar were made by the Governments of Austria, Cyprus, Finland, Germany, Ireland, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland. The financial situation of the Fund allowed for the award of a sufficient number of fellowships to candidates from developing countries in order to achieve an adequate geographical distribution of participants. This year, full fellowships (travel and subsistence allowance) were awarded to 13 candidates and partial fellowships (subsistence or travel only) to 4 candidates.

5. Of the 879 participants, representing 154 nationalities, who have taken part in the Seminar since 1965, the year of its inception, 522 have received a fellowship.

6. The Seminar was opened by the Chairman of the International Law Commission, Enrique J. A. Candioti, and members of the Commission gave lectures to the fellows on the following topics: unilateral acts of states; transboundary harm

arising from hazardous activities; *mettre un terme à l'impunité*; diplomatic protection; the work of the International Court of Justice; responsibility of international organizations; shared natural resources; the use of force in international law; and fragmentation. Lectures were also given by members of the World Health Organization (WHO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs on the following topics: the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control; international refugee law; current challenges to international humanitarian law; some aspects of recent developments in the Law of Treaties; and the work of the International Law Commission.

2. International Law Fellowship Programme

7. In paragraph 2 (a) of its resolution 56/77, the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to award a number of international law fellowships in both 2002 and 2003, to be determined in the light of the overall resources for the Programme of Assistance and to be awarded at the request of Governments of developing countries. On the basis of the resolution, 18 fellowships were awarded in 2002 and 19 fellowships in 2003.

8. For the 2003 Fellowship Programme, 197 applications from 56 countries had been received by the closing date. The 19 fellows (9 males and 10 females) who were selected in 2003 were from the following countries: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mexico, Morocco, Rwanda and Slovenia.

9. In addition to a series of lectures on public international law given at the Hague Academy of International Law, the Fellowship also offered an intensive programme of seminars and complementary study visits organized by the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs and UNITAR.

10. In 2003, the lectures included: "International Law in the Age of Human Rights" (Th. Meron, Judge, International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, The Hague); "International Protection of Refugees and Displaced Persons in Armed Conflicts" (O. Casanovas, Professor at Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona); "Theory of State Contracts and the Evolution of International Law" (Ch. Leben, Professor at the University of Paris II); "Evolution of International Water Law" (E. Brown Weiss, Professor at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.); "International Law and the Will of States" (M. Kamto, Professor at the University of Yaoundé II); "International Law when Faced with Terrorism" (P. Klein, Professor at the Free University of Brussels); and "International Law of Sustainable Development" (N.J. Schrijver, Professor at the Free University of Amsterdam).

11. In 2003, the seminars included: "International Trade Law and Commercial Arbitration" (R. Amoussou Guenou, Lecturer at the Asian Institute for Technology, Bangkok, and Regional Expert on Legal Cooperation in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Embassy of France, Bangkok); "Intellectual Property Law" (M. Kateb, Senior Counsellor, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Worldwide Academy, WIPO, Geneva); "International Criminal Law" (E. David, Professor at the Free University of Brussels); "Law of the Sea" (T. Treves, Judge, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, Hamburg, and Professor at the

University of Milan); "Treaty Law" (L. Condorelli, Professor at the University of Florence, Italy); "International Protection of Human Rights" (Y. Diallo, Human Rights Specialist, formerly of UNHCR, Geneva); "International Environmental Law" (L. Boisson de Chazournes, Professor at the University of Geneva); and "The Multilateral Trading System" (G. Marceau, Counsellor, Legal Affairs Division, World Trade Organization, Geneva).

12. Under the Programme, study visits were arranged in 2003 to the International Court of Justice, the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal and EUROPOL.

3. Regional courses

13. A regional international law course has been organized for participants from Latin American countries to be held in Quito from 16 to 27 February 2004.

4. Activities of the Office of Legal Affairs

(a) Public international law and other activities

14. As in the past, the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, and in particular its Codification Division, continued to perform various functions connected with the goals of the Programme.

15. The Office, in cooperation with UNITAR, made the various arrangements relating to the general orientation of the Fellowship Programme in International Law, such as the selection of fellows and the lecturers for the Programme. Close consultations were maintained between the Codification Division and UNITAR so as to ensure the implementation of the guidelines for the Fellowship Programme as approved by the General Assembly.

16. The Office of Legal Affairs received and assigned interns to participate in activities related to some of its projects. The Office selects interns and arranges for the duration and type of their training and assigns them to projects in which an intern has a special interest. Interns bear all their own financial expenses.

17. Regarding the United Nations Audio-Visual Library in International Law, the Codification Division has ascertained that the Dag Hammarskjöld Library is agreeable to assuming the administration of the Library.

18. The Codification Division also assists in the electronic dissemination of information regarding United Nations work on the codification and progressive development of international law, as well as on some aspects regarding its application. A summary of the activities of the Division is to be found in the international law section of the United Nations home page under "Codification of international law" (www.un.org/law/lindex.htm). The Division also maintains web sites for: the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly (www.un.org/law/cod/sixth/index.html) containing, inter alia, links to documents in all official languages and a summary of the activities of the Committee organized by session; the International Law Commission (www.un.org/law/ilc/index.htm), including the Commission's most recent reports and other documentation as well as an online research guide; and the International Criminal Court (www.un.org/law/icc/index.html), containing up-to-date information as to the status of the Rome

Statute and links to recent documentation. In addition, information and documentation links are also available at the web sites of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 on international terrorism. Web sites have recently been created for the Ad Hoc Committee on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and their Property, the Ad Hoc Committee on an International Convention against the Reproductive Cloning of Human Beings, the Ad Hoc Committee on the Scope of Legal Protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, and Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization. The Division also has established a web site on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* (www.un.org/law/repertory). Finally, the Codification Division has been assisting with the inputting of published United Nations legal opinions into the database of the Global Legal Information Network (GLIN), which was developed by the United States Library of Congress and which has as its goal the inclusion of all the world's laws, as well as other legal information.

19. The web site of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea on the United Nations home page (www.un.org/Depts/los/index.htm) is now providing information on the status of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and related instruments; legal aspects of the marine environment, marine resources; activities of other organizations and bodies in the area of oceans and the law of the sea; relevant international and regional agreements; information on settlement of disputes; and extensive lists of documents and publications aimed at a better understanding of the legal regime as contained in the Law of the Sea Convention.

(b) Activities concerning the law of the sea and ocean affairs: the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship

20. The fellowship provides an opportunity for fellows to advance in their chosen professions or vocations by expanding their knowledge and attaining a better understanding of and greater specialization in the fields of study related to the law of the sea and its implementation. The candidates for the fellowship must have a degree in law, marine science, political science, ocean management, administration of ports or in related disciplines. They must have at least five years of work-related experience.

21. The fellowship is awarded by the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, the Legal Counsel, on the recommendations of the Advisory Panel.

22. The award under the fellowship programme provides successful fellows with facilities for postgraduate study and research in the field of the law of the sea, its implementation and related marine affairs, at participating universities.

23. The fellowship is publicized globally and applications are received in response to invitations extended through the offices of the resident representatives of the United Nations Development Programme and through the United Nations information centres. The selection of candidates is subject to a two-stage process. The preliminary stage of review of the individual applications and nominations, which are received from Governments, governmental agencies, institutions and other bodies, is carried out by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea in cooperation with the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs which

draw up a shortlist of candidates. The shortlist is then evaluated by the high-level Advisory Panel.

24. Annual awards have been offered to individuals from the following countries: Nepal (1986); United Republic of Tanzania (1987); Chile (1988); Trinidad and Tobago (1989);[2] São Tomé and Príncipe (1990); Yugoslavia (1991); Thailand (1992); Kenya (1993);[3] Cameroon and Seychelles (1994); Tonga (1995); Indonesia (1996); Samoa (1997); Nigeria and Papua New Guinea (1998); Barbados and Sri Lanka (1999); Kenya (2000); Bulgaria and Iran (Islamic Republic of) (2001); and Cape Verde and Colombia (2002).[4]

25. The Advisory Panel will meet in early November 2003 to choose a candidate for the eighteenth annual award.

(c) Activities concerning international trade law

26. The activities conducted by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and its secretariat (International Trade Law Branch of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs) in connection with the Programme of Assistance are designed primarily to acquaint government officials, lawyers and scholars, particularly from developing countries, with the work of UNCITRAL and with the legal texts that have emanated from its work.

27. The Commission, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 56/79 of 12 December 2001 and 57/17 of 19 November 2002, organized seminars and symposia in many developing countries with the objective of assisting them in adopting and implementing UNCITRAL texts. In addition, members of the UNCITRAL secretariat participated as speakers in a number of seminars and courses financed by institutions organizing those events or by other organizations. The Assembly in its resolutions reiterated its appeal to Governments, the bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Trust Fund for Symposia and, when appropriate, to the financing of special projects, and otherwise to assist the secretariat of the Commission in financing and organizing seminars and symposia, in particular in developing countries, and in the award of fellowships to candidates from developing countries to enable them to participate in such seminars and symposia. The Assembly also appealed to the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies responsible for development assistance, as well as to Governments, to support the training and technical assistance programme of the Commission and to cooperate and coordinate their activities with those of the Commission.

28. The UNCITRAL web site (www.uncitral.org) is designed to provide relevant information concerning the Commission to Governments, Commission delegates, researchers, practitioners and others interested in the work of the Commission. The site contains both texts adopted by the Commission and preparatory documentation for the Commission and its six working groups; case law on UNCITRAL texts (CLOUT); conventions (including their status) and model laws (including their implementation by States); archived research materials; and other texts relating to international trade law.

(d) Activities concerning treaty law matters

29. The United Nations Treaty Section has continued to expand its programme of technical assistance on treaty law and practice in the context of the *Strategy for an Era of Application of International Law: Action Plan*. In addition to the technical assistance and advice routinely provided to permanent missions and government legal officers and various parts of the United Nations Secretariat on the registration and publication of treaties and the depositary practice of the Secretary-General, advice and assistance were also provided on treaties and related actions recorded and stored in the Treaty Section database and on the drafting of final clauses of multilateral treaties.

30. In particular, the Treaty Section, in collaboration with UNITAR, organized two training sessions at United Nations Headquarters on treaty law and practice. The sessions were well attended and the feedback was very satisfactory. In addition, the Section organized its first regional training programme on treaty law and practice in the Lao People's Democratic Republic from 12 to 14 February 2003, with a follow-up workshop held from 7 to 9 October 2003. The training focused on the depositary practice of the Secretary-General and the registration practice of the United Nations Secretariat, with a view to encouraging greater participation by the Lao People's Democratic Republic in the multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and in the process, to advance and consolidate the international rule of law.

31. In preparation for the 2003 Treaty Event, which was held from 23 to 27 September, on the theme of "Transnational Organized Crime and Terrorism", the Treaty Section, in conjunction with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, organized a panel of international experts on "The International Rule of Law: Multilateral Treaties against Transnational Organized Crime and Terrorism" at United Nations Headquarters on 8 July.

5. Publications

(a) United Nations Treaty Collection

32. Consistent with the wishes of the Member States, the Treaty Section has continued to develop and enhance the Section's computerization programme in order to facilitate the effective storage, retrieval and timely dissemination of treaty information, now substantially contained in the web site of the United Nations Treaty Collection. In 2003, "Focus 2003: Treaties against Transnational Organized Crime and Terrorism" was added to the home page. The site is being updated to include all treaties published to date and its search capabilities are being upgraded. In addition, the certified true copies of multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General are being prepared for posting on the site. The Treaty Section has furthermore published *Multilateral Treaties deposited with the Secretary-General, status as at 2002* on CD-ROM with a seamless interface with the Treaty Collection web site. Developing country users, NGOs, national Governments, users within the United Nations family and members of the International Law Commission have been provided free access to the Treaty Collection web site.

(b) ***United Nations Juridical Yearbook***

33. The following *Yearbooks* have been completed and sent to press: 1998, 1999 and 2000. The 1997 volume is expected to be published shortly. Work on the 2001 *Yearbook* is well under way.

(c) ***United Nations Reports of International Arbitral Awards***

34. Volume 22 was prepared by the Codification Division and has been published. Volume 23 is expected to be prepared for submission in 2004.

(d) ***Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council***

35. During the period under review, the Secretariat continued its efforts to reduce the backlog in the publication of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, as well as of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 57/24 of 19 November 2002. The status of the various Supplements of the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire* is set out in the report of the Secretary-General.[5] Moreover, the placement of *Repertory* studies on the Internet is being implemented, initially, in English and, subsequently, in French and Spanish.

(e) **Other publications**

36. In 2003, the Codification Division prepared for publication: a historical review of developments relating to aggression; a second edition of *International Instruments Related to the Prevention and Suppression of International Terrorism*; a summary of the judgments, advisory opinions and orders of the International Court of Justice, 1997-2002; an addition to the *United Nations Legislative Series* entitled "National Laws and Regulations on the Prevention and Suppression of International Terrorism, Part II"; and the sixth edition of *The Work of the International Law Commission*.

37. During 2003, the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea published No. 51 of the *Law of the Sea Bulletin*. This periodical updates information relating to the law of the sea and marine affairs, including national legislation, bilateral and multilateral treaties, and the decisions of international courts and arbitral tribunals. The Division also issued No. 17 in the *Law of the Sea Information Circular* series which presents information on any action taken by States parties in implementing the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

38. During 2003, the International Trade Law Branch published the Case Law on UNCITRAL Texts (CLOUT) abstracts Nos. 35 to 40, as well as a thesaurus and an index of the UNCITRAL Model Arbitration Law. UNCITRAL has also prepared CD-ROM compilations of, inter alia, UNCITRAL adopted texts; the UNCITRAL report on the status of ratifications and enactments of texts arising from the work of UNCITRAL; CLOUT abstracts and related research materials; and the UNCITRAL consolidated bibliography, in the six languages of the United Nations. The International Trade Law Branch regularly updates the bibliography as released on the UNCITRAL web site (www.uncitral.org).

6. Distribution of United Nations legal publications

39. Pursuant to paragraph 84 of the 2001 report of the Secretary-General on the Programme of Assistance (A/56/484), describing activities to be carried out during the biennium 2002-2003, and paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 56/77 authorizing their implementation, copies of United Nations legal publications issued during the period have been provided to the institutions in developing countries that have been receiving such publications under the Programme and to other institutions in a number of countries, in particular in the developing countries, for which requests for such publications have been made by the Member States concerned. The International Court of Justice continued to provide copies of its publications to institutions receiving assistance under the Programme.

B. Activities of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research

40. In addition to cooperation with the Office of Legal Affairs in organizing the Fellowship Programme, as referred to in section II.A.2 above, UNITAR in 2003 carried out a number of activities related to the teaching, study, dissemination and appreciation of international law, including: the Fellowship Programme on the International Civil Service jointly organized by the International Organization of la Francophonie (CAIF), the National School of Administration (ENA) and the Cameroon Institute of International Relations (IRIC) and held in Yaoundé, Paris and Geneva; tailor-made training courses on international environmental law, international trade law and commercial arbitration, as well as on international courts and tribunals, conducted in Geneva; the UNITAR training programme for the implementation of environmental law, including distance-learning courses, as well as workshops and seminars held in France, Japan and Madagascar; and a fully fledged training programme on the legal aspects of debt, financial management and negotiation, including a comprehensive e-learning instruction package. The UNITAR New York office also offered courses in international law. These included programmes jointly organized with the United Nations Treaty Section and with the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, as well as the Study Programme for Diplomats conducted with Columbia Law School in New York.

III. Guidelines and recommendations regarding execution of the Programme in the biennium 2004-2005

A. General observations

41. In paragraph 15 of its resolution 56/77, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it at the fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the Programme during 2002 and 2003 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme, to submit recommendations regarding the execution of the Programme in subsequent years.

42. The paragraphs below contain the guidelines and recommendations requested by the General Assembly in its resolution. In formulating such guidelines and recommendations, account has been taken of the fact that the Assembly did not

provide in the resolution for new budgetary resources for the Programme, but relied instead on financing such activities from the existing overall level of appropriations and voluntary contributions from States.

43. Therefore, in substance, the paragraphs below recommend that the United Nations and other agencies continue the current activities under the Programme and develop and expand them if new funds become available through voluntary contributions. In principle, new activities should only be undertaken if the overall level of appropriations or voluntary contributions make them possible.

B. Activities of the United Nations

44. *Geneva International Law Seminar*. It is expected that, if sufficient voluntary contributions from States continue to be made, new sessions of the Seminar will be held in 2004 and 2005 in conjunction with those of the International Law Commission. Scheduling of the sessions of the Seminar should be done in such a way as to make it possible to provide it with adequate services, including interpretation as required.

45. *Public international law and other activities*. During the biennium 2004-2005, the Office of Legal Affairs and its Codification Division are expected to continue performing the various functions connected with the goals of the Programme, as described in the present report, namely, participation in the International Law Fellowship Programme; regional refresher courses; training of interns; lecturing on international law topics; secretariat functions to the Advisory Committee and to the Sixth Committee on the item concerning the United Nations Programme of Assistance; and dissemination of information regarding the codification and progressive development of international law. With regard to the training of interns, geographical distribution is duly borne in mind in selecting interns and, at the same time, existing possibilities are fully taken advantage of, irrespective of nationality.

46. *Activities concerning the law of the sea and ocean affairs: the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship*. The Office of Legal Affairs will continue to award at least one fellowship annually, in accordance with the rules and guidelines.

47. *Activities concerning international trade law*. The steps to promote training and assistance in international trade law are of particular concern to developing countries. The Secretary-General, through the International Trade Law Branch of the Office of Legal Affairs, will take the requisite action during the biennium 2004-2005 to implement the recommendations addressed to him in this regard by UNCITRAL and the General Assembly.

48. *Publications*. It is expected that the United Nations Secretariat will continue its efforts to reduce the backlog of the *United Nations Treaty Series*.[6] Efforts should also be continued by the United Nations Secretariat to ensure the publishing of matters of legal interest through the Internet on the United Nations home page as well as through other electronic media.

49. *Provision of United Nations legal publications*. Copies of United Nations legal publications issued during 2004 and 2005 will be provided to the institutions in developing countries that have been receiving such publications under the Programme and to other institutions in the developing countries for which requests

for such publications are made by the Member States concerned. Each new request will be reviewed on its own merits and the availability of the legal publication in question will also be taken into account.

50. *Fellowships and scholarships offered at national institutions*. Information received from Governments regarding the fellowships and scholarships offered at national institutions will, at the request of those Governments, be circulated to all Member States.

51. *International Law Fellowship Programme*. The International Law Fellowship Programme should be conducted as effectively and as efficiently as possible. A number of fellowships should continue to be awarded each year under the United Nations regular budget. Additional fellowships may also be awarded from the Trust Fund of the Programme of Assistance, depending upon the amount of the voluntary contributions received each year.

52. The Programme should also be open to a limited number of observers whose Governments are willing to cover the expenses of their observers.

53. Extreme caution should be exercised in the allocation of funds from the Trust Fund to finance administrative and other expenses of the Fellowship Programme. As in previous years, it is to be stressed that guidelines contained in General Assembly resolutions should be followed, in particular, the desirability of using, as far as possible, the resources and facilities made available by Member States, international organizations and others, as well as the need, in appointing lecturers for the seminars of the Fellowship Programme, to secure representation of the major legal systems and balance among various geographical regions.

54. As in previous years, in the implementation of the Fellowship Programme, maximum use should be made of the existing human and material resources of the Organization so as to achieve the best possible results within a policy of maximum financial restraint. Every effort should be made to enhance and maintain the high quality of the lecturers and the seminars. To the extent possible, teaching experts for the seminars should be selected from among the staff of the Organization, thus reducing to a minimum consultants' fees and making full use of the expertise of Organization staff in international law and related areas.

55. Beginning in 1998, the Fellowship Programme was conducted in a monolingual format, alternating between English and French. This change from the previous bilingual format reduced the cost of the Programme and also enhanced its quality. The monolingual format will continue for the 2004 and 2005 programmes.

56. Upon the invitation of the Office of Legal Affairs, UNITAR should continue to participate in those aspects of the Fellowship Programme as appropriate and in accordance with the guidelines set out above.

IV. Administrative and financial implications of United Nations participation in the Programme

A. Biennium 2002-2003

57. Among the activities carried out under the Programme during 2002-2003, the following items were related to allocations from the regular budget: the supply of

United Nations legal publications to institutions in developing countries; and the provision of a number of international law fellowships, determined in the light of the overall resources for the Programme (General Assembly resolution 56/77, para. 2 (a)).

58. The cost of the handling and shipping of United Nations legal publications to institutions in developing countries was covered under the relevant sections of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 relating to administrative and common services.

59. The actual cost of producing the publications falls under the respective allocations for the substantive programmes to which each publication belongs.

60. As for the cost of provision by the United Nations of a number of fellowships determined in the light of the overall resources for the Programme, a total of $391,300 was proposed in the regular budget sources under section 8 (Legal affairs).

61. In accordance with paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 56/77, in which the Assembly reiterated its request to Member States and to interested organizations and individuals to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme, the Secretary-General addressed a note on 11 January 2002, and again on 30 December 2002, to Member States drawing their attention to resolution 56/77, as well as to the report of the International Law Commission.

62. For the Geneva International Law Seminar, the Governments of the following countries made contributions in 2002: Austria ($3,350); Finland ($3,500); Germany ($9,000); Mexico ($7,500); Norway ($2,205); Switzerland ($14,620); and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ($7,285). In 2003, contributions were received from: Austria ($9,880); Cyprus ($425); Finland ($4,305); Germany ($11,240); Ireland ($2,100); Republic of Korea ($2,000); and Switzerland ($18,400).

63. For the International Law Fellowship Programme, the following countries made contributions during 2002 and 2003: Bahamas ($500); El Salvador ($1,000); Greece ($10,000); Monaco ($20,000); Sweden ($4,350); Trinidad and Tobago ($1,029); and United Kingdom ($47,580).

64. For the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, the Governments of the following countries made contributions in 2002: Cyprus ($1,000); Monaco ($10,000); and United Kingdom ($69,690).

65. For UNCITRAL, the Governments of the following countries made contributions during 2002 and 2003: Singapore (Trust Fund for Travel Assistance — $2,000); France (Trust Fund for UNCITRAL Symposia — $44,400); Greece ($20,000); Mexico ($5,000); and Switzerland ($30,200).

66. For the United Nations Audio-Visual Library in International Law, a contribution of $3,000 was received from Mexico.

B. Biennium 2004-2005

67. Assuming that the recommendations regarding legal publications are adopted, the cost of handling and shipping the United Nations legal publications issued in 2004 and 2005 would be covered by the estimates under the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.

68. With regard to the provision of fellowships within the International Law Fellowship Programme during the biennium and possibly of travel grants for participants in regional refresher courses during 2004 or 2005, an amount of $404,600 is included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 under section 8 (Legal affairs), assuming that the General Assembly approves the guidelines and recommendations on those programmes.

69. The Secretary-General would repeat his efforts, if the General Assembly so decides, in requesting voluntary contributions to the Programme. It is proposed that, as in past years, the funds accruing from such contributions have, as a main goal, subject to considerations of a practical nature, the increase of the number of fellowship grants to candidates from developing countries in addition to the minimum that would be authorized by the General Assembly under the appropriations from the regular budget.

V. Meetings of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

A. Membership of the Advisory Committee

70. In accordance with paragraph 17 of General Assembly resolution 54/102 of 9 December 1999, the membership of the Advisory Committee for the period from 1 January 2000 to 31 December 2003 is as follows: Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Portugal, Russian Federation, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

B. Consideration of the reports of the Secretary-General by the Advisory Committee at its thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth sessions

71. In paragraph 15 of its resolution 56/77, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the Programme during 2002-2003.

72. As part of the preparation of the report requested under resolution 56/77, the Secretary-General prepared an interim report covering the activities carried out during 2002 by the various bodies that participated in the execution of the Programme, as well as a draft report covering the activities carried out in 2003.

73. At the thirty-seventh session of the Advisory Committee, held on 21 November 2002, the representatives of the following members of the Committee were present: Colombia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Ghana, Italy, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, Portugal, Russian Federation, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America. Representatives of UNITAR and the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the

Sea also attended. At the thirty-eighth session of the Advisory Committee, held on 16 October 2003, the representatives of the following members were present: Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Portugal, Russian Federation, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America. Representatives of UNITAR and the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea also attended.

74. The thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth sessions of the Advisory Committee were chaired by Thomas Kwesi Quartey of Ghana.

75. George Korontzis, Senior Legal Officer, Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs, acted as Secretary of the Advisory Committee at both sessions.

76. The Advisory Committee considered the Secretary-General's interim report of 2002 at its thirty-seventh session and the draft report of the Secretary-General at its thirty-eighth session.

77. At the thirty-seventh session, appreciation was expressed for the continued efforts of the Secretary-General to reduce the backlog in the publications *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*.

78. At both sessions, additional information was requested regarding the UNCITRAL seminars. It was pointed out that that information could be found in UNCITRAL annual reports and on its web site.

Notes

[1] OLA/UNPA/2003/CRP.1.

[2] The fellowship was originally awarded to a candidate from Saint Lucia, who was unable to take up the fellowship for personal reasons; the back-up candidate from Trinidad and Tobago was therefore awarded the fellowship.

[3] The recipient of the award was unable to take up the fellowship for personal reasons and there was not enough time to award the fellowship to the back-up candidate.

[4] The individuals from Seychelles (1994), Papua New Guinea (1998), Barbados (1999), Bulgaria (2001) and Colombia (2002) received Special Awards.

[5] See A/58/347.

[6] The time lag between the submission of a treaty and its publication has been reduced to a current level of two years.